IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S): Hiroji KAWAI

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SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned GROUP ART UNIT: 2823

FILED: January 24, 2001

EXAMINER:

J. GARCIA

TITLE: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

BOX Patent Application Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Regarding the 37 CFR 1.53(b) Divisional filed on January 24, 2001, please enter the following amendments and consider the remarks below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, between lines 1 and 2, insert -- RELATED APPLICATION DATA

This patent is a divisional application of serial number 09/316,044, filed on May 21, 1999. Moreover, this patent claims priority to Japanese Application Mo. P10-147492, filed May 28, 1998, which application is incorporated by reference to the extent permitted by law .-- .

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-8 and claims 13-23.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1-8 and 13-23 are canceled. Claims 9-12 remain pending.

> Respectfully submitted. SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL Attorneys for Applicants

Dated: January 24, 2001

by: Thristypen P. Farm Christopher P. Rauch CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Box Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 2021 on Annuary 24, 2001.

Rose M. Garza Date: January 24, 2001